

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

SCI-06 DEAE-00 HEW-08 EB-11 IGA-02 AID-20 RSR-01 /123 W

----- 124727

R 181530Z JUL 73 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5636

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 8336

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR IN

SUBJ: OPIUM STOCKPILE RELEASES

REF: A) STATE 134521; B) NEW DELHI 6828; (NOTAL)

C) STATE 137642

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT SHOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS LIKELY LONG RANGE US IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIAN OPIUM AT TIME OF APPRIXING GOI OF PLANS TO RELEASE OPIUM FROM STOCKPILE. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE (REF B), GOI IS CONCERNED ABOUT OVERALL QUESTION OF DESIRABLE LEVEL OF INDIAN OPIUM PRODUCTION AND PLANS TO RAISE SUBJECT AT NEXT MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL NAROCTICS CONTROLBOARD. WHILE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES HAVE MADE CLEAR THEIR DESIRE TO BUY MORE INDIAN OPIUM. GOI APPARENTLY ASSUMES USG PRESSURE FOR STOPPING ALL LEGAL OPIUM PRODUCTION IS LKELY TO BE FELT AFTER EFFECTIVE CODEINE/MORPHINE SUBSTITUTES ARE DEVELOPED.

2. WE ASSUME QUESTION OF TIME NECESSARY TO DEVELOP SUBSTITUTES, WHICH GOI OFFICIALS ARE LIKELY TO ASK WHEN APPRISED OF STOCKPILE RELEASE PLANS, IS BEING CONSIDERED DURING INTERAGENCY REVIEW NOTED REF C. IF INDIANS COULD

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BE REASONABLY SURE WHETHER OR NOT COMPETITIVE SYNTHETICS

ARE LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE DURING NEXT 10-15 YEARS, THEN
THEY WOULD BE BETTER ABLE TO DETERMINE ADVISABILITY OF
MAKING LARGER INVESTMENTS IN INCREASED OPIUM PRODUCTION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: BEFORE DISCUSSING OPIUM STOCKPILE
RELEASES WITH GOI, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT(S BEST
UNDERSTANDING OF LIKELY US LONG TERM OPIUM IMPORT DEMAND IN ORDER
TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO ANTICIPATED INDIAN QUESTIONS.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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